"Pygmalion" American Premieres, Astor, N.Y.

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

RAY LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

Vol. 30, No. 34 | TORONTO 2, CANADA | December 10th, 1938

Sensational HARDYS

"Out West With The Hardys" with Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Cecilia Parker, Fay Holden. Screen Play by Kay Van Riper, Agnes Christine Johnston and William Ludwig. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture. Directed by George B. Seitz.

The new Judge Hardy Family picture "OUT WEST WITH THE HARDYS" in its first 34 engagements is the biggest M-G-M hit in a season of hits! It is doing the best business of the entire Hardy series, including the previous record-breaker "Love Finds Andy Hardy." It is beating "Boys Town", "Too Hot To Handle" and all the biggest M-G-M "A"ttractions!

(AS WE GALLOP TO PRESS! *"Out West With The Hardys" Holding Over Everywhere!*)

Metro-Goldwyn-m"A"yer, the Friendly Company

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

TRUE TALK ON HOLIDAY BOOKINGS!

(By Leo, of The Friendly Company)

"Don't do it!

"I mean don't take chances when it comes to booking attractions for Holiday time.

"For instance—I guaranteed great business for Thanksgiving with 'OUT WEST WITH THE HARDYS.'

"IT DID THE BIGGEST BUSINESS IN 6 YEARS ON THE LOEW CIRCUIT (*in snow-storms!*)

"'OUT WEST WITH THE HARDYS' A CLEAN-UP EVERYWHERE! WAY AHEAD OF 'BOYS TOWN'! TWICE THE BUSINESS OF 'LOVE FINDS ANDY HARDY.' IMAGINE!

"Now I give you another tip: Ask smart showmen everywhere, in large towns, in small towns what they're booking for the fat and luscious New Year's trade—

"ask them what picture they're banking on for the most valuable playing time on their calendar:

"it's JEANETTE MacDONALD, NELSON EDDY in 'SWEETHEARTS' (*Technicolor*) now being booked solid throughout America for the holidays.

"I guaranteed 'OUT WEST WITH THE HARDYS' for Thanksgiving and it's terrific!

"I now guarantee 'SWEETHEARTS' for the New Year's! It's the biggest and best holiday show in years!

← DON'T *DO* THIS WITH HOLIDAY BOOKINGS!

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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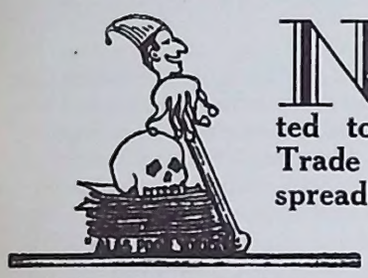
THE MOUSE AND THE BOA CONSTRICTOR



NO man, nor any one company should be permitted to control the Film Trade in Canada, nor to spread the propaganda of their Invincibility, making human beings deaf and dumb to a protest against such Dictatorship!

All Dictators use Force, and they spread the Gospel of Fear to subjugate their victims, but remember the story of Herman, the little mouse which was dropped into the cage of the boa constrictor, just a few days ago at the Brooklyn, N.Y. zoo, because this serpent had to have living food for consumption.

Little Herman, clever as the Mickey Mouse of Disney fame, took so many bites out of the boa constrictor, that this consumer of the living, died of his mortal wounds.

IF A MOUSE CAN KILL A SERPENT, THE FORMER WHICH IS CAGED FOOD FOR THE SERPENT, HOW MUCH GREATER IS THE STRENGTH OF A HUMAN BEING WHO FINDS HIMSELF CAGED WITH A BOA CONSTRICTOR, THE LATTER ACCEPTED AS THE CONSUMER OF LIVING ENTERPRISE!

This is no parable, or fable, or fairy tale. This Herman was a mouse-hero, who was caught alive in a mouse-trap in the basement of the children's zoo at Brooklyn, New York. The supervisor of the museum thought that he would do for a supper tidbit for the boa constrictor, the latter who did not even uncurl himself at the presence of this morsel of a supper.

Herman actually took so many bites out of The Enemy, which he instinctively knew would eat him up, that the boa constrictor died, whereupon our valiant little mouse-hero was chloroformed, presumably to prevent him from fighting for his life and rights against Consuming Boa Constrictors.

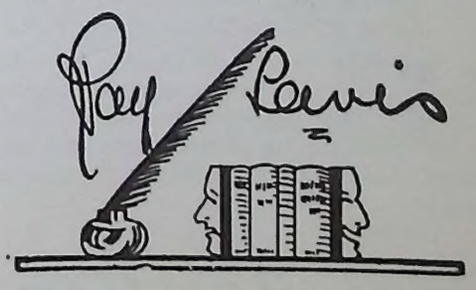
Herman is dead, but he will be remembered. His courage will immortalize him, and perhaps give Walt Disney an inspiration for a Mickey Mouse story. We suggest that there is a big idea here.

There was a news note, but no editorial comment in the little paper which an Independent helped to publish and finance, mentioning that after fifteen years this Independent exhibitor has been forced to close his theatre in Toronto, because of The Big Fellow.

This exhibitor, it is evident, did not read of the courage of Herman, else he would have sharpened his teeth to take a few good bites out of the Boa Constrictor which was consuming him.

The story of the mouse-hero relates itself to the 16mm. film, in that it is likely to take so many bites out of theatres in Canada, and cause so much irritation, by way of protests to civic, provincial and federal authorities, that the Moving Picture Industry may find that its Canadian Film Enterprise may be mortally wounded.

Remember Herman, the Mouse, and do not underestimate the fighting spirit of minorities, the Little Ones, O ye, who are oppressors!



RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

IN the United States a Refugee Art Fund has been promoted for the purpose of securing funds for German Refugees.

Manny Silverstone of United Artists, and Dick Murray of Paramount have been appointed treasurers of a raffle of paintings, from which raffle, money will be obtained for refugee relief through the Motion Picture Art Fund.

Several years ago, The Digest, with the co-operation of Famous Players Canadian theatres and the Independent theatres across Canada, raised approximately $35,000 for Refugees of Europe, victims of pogroms. Benefit performances were given at the Imperial, Toronto, and in other theatres across Canada.

A similar plan could be set into operation at the present time, if each theatre in Canada would donate its receipts for one night, and the exchanges would co-operate by donating their percentages for that particular night. Motion Pictures could organize the other Amusement and Entertainment enterprises, making one night in Canada, The Night Donated To The German Refugee Fund.

THE official attitude of Canada toward German Refugees, has not yet been heralded as an evidence of our belief in Democracy, and of our abhorrence of Dictatorships, and the atrocities of the Nazis.

The U.S. press has been frank in its opinion concerning Canada's tardiness in telling Germany, that we are prepared to open our doors to a number of German Refugees.

We have thousands of acres of land in Canada, which could be made productive, providing we had the necessary population for such use. Our statesmen have long heralded the fact that Canada could take care of twenty-five millions of people, without being crowded, provided however, that an influx of population would stimulate the production and distribution of the necessities and luxuries which humans desire and require.

The natural resources of Canada are so bountiful, that any attitude which keeps them from their natural use, is another example of the dog in the manger, which lies upon hay which it cannot eat, and thereby prevents a consumer, the horse, from partaking of its natural food.

THE people of Canada have been unanimous in voicing vehement protests against the policies of the Nazi government, the latter which has debased its own citizens, robbed them, plundered them, making these Refugees the adopted children of the world.

The people of Canada have, through their leaders, representative of every branch of educational, cultural, economic and religious expression publicly denounced the Nazi policy, which has regimented its citizens into minority groups, based upon religious and political differences, and presented the Democracies of the world with the most complicated Refugee problem with which the civilized countries of the world have as yet had to contend.

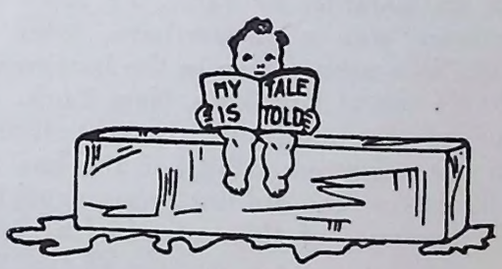
The Nazis have made Refugees of all classes, the priest, the rabbi, bankers, scientists, humanitarians, scholars, musicians, economists, men and women famous in Arts and Letters, some possessed of that rare creative ability which civilized people have acclaimed as genius.

ALL the German individualists, stripped of their possessions, and even of their love of their Fatherland, have been cast out naked as it were, into an harassed world, into which the Nazi propaganda of brother against brother, has already penetrated.

Since we, of Motion Pictures, have been so frequently mentioned by the Nazi propagandists, as possessing extraordinary Finance and Power, why not give the Nazis at least one truthful statement, which they can claim.

Let us, through the Motion Picture Industry in Canada, set aside one night for German Refugees, our contribution in money, in publicity to the principles of Democracy.

If we stop to value the extent of such service with the sense of "what do we get out of it?", may The Digest remind itself, and all of its readers, that unless the Refugee problem is satisfactorily solved by the Democracies, chaos and fear will continue to stampede the people and governments into a barbarism, which will make the form of a monkey a body to be desired, for the divine employment of possessing a tail, from which one can swing from the branch of a tree, in pursuit of another monkey or a cocoanut.



Three M-G-M Productions Open First Run On Broadway; "Pygmalion"- Astor, "Out West With the Hardys"- Capitol, and "Dramatic School"- Music Hall

Digest Reviews and Previews

★ ★

"ANNABEL TAKES A TOUR"

RKO RADIO

THIS is the second production of a series starring Lucille Ball and Jack Oakie, the first of which, "The Affairs of Annabel" has received considerable success to date. The new picture, continues the adventures of screen star Lucille Ball and her publicity man, Jack Oakie, with new angles introduced for the hilarity of the audience.

Jack Oakie, fired again by studio boss Bradley Page, is re-hired at Lucille Ball's insistence, to handle the publicity for her on her proposed goodwill tour across the country, to coincide with the opening of her new picture. As usual Oakie makes a hash of the whole set-up, getting her hardly any publicity at all. Then she meets and imagines herself in love with titled author Ralph Forbes, and is ready to renounce the screen for love of Forbes. The whole affair blows up, however, when Forbes' wife and three children arrive on the scene, and Oakie has to help her escape an 'alienation of affections' summons Forbes' wife tries to serve on her. The final fade-out leaves Lucille, Oakie, Bradley Page and Page's secretary, Ruth Donnelly, stranded on a run-away railway coach, which Oakie has disconnected from the train in order to escape Forbes' wife. This leaves the door open for a third in the series.

Work of Lucille Ball and Jack Oakie is quite good, while the support by Bradley Page, Ralph Forbes, Ruth Donnelly and the others, is excellent. Others in the cast include Alice White, Frances Mercer, Donald MacBride, and Jean Rouverol.

Lew Landers again directed, with Lou Lusty in charge of production.

Couple it with a drama or an action picture, and you'll find it pleases 100%.

Running time—60 minutes.

SHORT SUBJECTS

"MOTHER GOOSE GOES HOLLYWOOD"

RKO RADIO

HERE'S a laugh sensation that will have your patrons rolling in the aisles, as they see their favorite movie stars in caricature, such as only Walt Disney could do. Picture Katie Hepburn as "Little Bo Peep", searching high and low for her sheep, Charles Laughton, in the uniform and pose of Captain Bligh, with Spencer Tracy ("Captains Courageous") and Freddie Bartholomew, as the "Three Men in a Tub", Hugh Herbert as "Old King Cole", the Marx Brothers as the "Fiddlers Three", W. C. Fields as "Humpty Dumpty", falling off the wall when he swings at a bold and brazen "Charlie McCarthy", and so on down the list, with other stars including Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, Edward G. Robinson, Cab Calloway, and a host of others. Take my word for it, and grab this hilarious subject.

Running time—7½ minutes.

"MUSIC WITH A SMILE"

VITAPHONE

A VITAPHONE "Melody Masters" reel, and the best of the group that I have seen to date. As you have probably guessed by previous reviews on these subjects, I do not like these shorts presenting famous dance bands, chiefly because the minute the band stops playing, the reel passes into oblivion. However, here is one that doesn't. "Happy" Felton and his Orchestra put on a great show, with the maestro himself registering as a "solid sender". The "Three Reasons", a trio of lovely girls, will tickle your fancy with their rendition of a song entitled, "My Jezebel", and you'll get a big kick out of "Happy's" version of "That Cuban Gent". Your patrons will find this a very enjoyable subject.

Running time—10 minutes.

PERSONAL MUSINGS

THERE are a lot of people in this world who believe, and we agree with them, that it's better to be a big frog in a small pond, than a small frog in a big pond. In any small town, the exhibitor is a man of considerable importance in the community. He numbers all the townspeople among his acquaintances, knowing the majority by name, and enjoying their personal friendship in many cases. In fact, many exhibitors become so highly thought-of in their respective towns, that they are given particular honor by their fellow citizens. Such a man is Leslie D. Kniffen, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Kincardine, Ont. As proof of our statement, we quote from the Kincardine News as follows:

"One can not be continually knocking his fellow citizens. Nor on the other hand can praise be given out too lavishly, but we do believe a word of tribute is due Leslie D. Kniffen, manager of the Capitol Theatre. Since taking over the theatre a year ago, Mr. Kniffen has not only brought to Kincardine first run pictures, but he has gone to great lengths and made sacrifices to co-operate with organizations in town . . . Such a citizen is an asset to a town, as is a theatre and the entertainment it presents."

Congratulations, Les, them's mighty fine words of praise.

Harold Bishop, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Winnipeg, Man., held a special children's show at the Capitol recently.

Wolfe Cohen, General Manager for Canada of Vitagraph, Inc., is hot on the chances of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, in their game against the Argonauts this Saturday, and is backing up his opinion with quite a few shekels. Good luck, Wolfe.

The 20th Century-Fox film, "Suez", inspired a generous editorial last week in the Ottawa Evening Journal, which states in part: "Because there is a human tendency to mention the wrongs rather than the rights of a public service as of an individual, there is too little heard of the educational and instructive value of the cinema". The article then goes on to describe the history presented in "Suez", and mentions other historical productions, including "Pasteur", "Les Miserables", "Lloyds of London", "Rhodes", "Emile Zola", etc., and concludes with, "In thus teaching history, an invaluable knowledge to those working out the future, the cinema is doing a great service to society in general and itself in particular." So, I guess, we're not so bad after all.

John G. Strathy, Brock Theatre, Whitby, Ont., in town this week.

James McDonough of London has been appointed manager of the new theatre in Galt, Ont., which is scheduled to open Dec. 23. Mr. McDonough has been managing the Palace and Grand Theatres in London, and previous to that opened the New Royal Theatre in Woodstock. He has also managed houses in Cobourg and Kingston.

"Jay L."

Fairweather in the Maritimes

By ALICE T. FAIRWEATHER

NOTICING in the Mayfair Theatre announcement the words "Unaccompanied Children not admitted after six P.M." followed by the admission price, your correspondent asked Mr. J. M. Franklin regarding this notice. Mr. Franklin stated that it was expressly inserted to prevent the attendance of small children at the evening performances and said that extreme vigilance had to be exercised to stop the youngsters from temporarily adopting some grown-up as a parent or guardian in order to slip in. The New Brunswick Act states "Children apparently under the age of twelve years unaccompanied by a parent or responsible person shall not be permitted to attend any exhibition of a cinematograph, etc., at which exhibition an admission fee is made, nor shall children apparently under the age of sixteen years be permitted to attend such exhibition during school hours".

The Nova Scotia Act is more specific, "Children under the age of ten years unaccompanied by an adult shall not be permitted to attend any theatre or place of amusement at which an admission price is charged. Children apparently under the age of sixteen years, unaccompanied by an adult shall not be permitted to attend by night any theatre or place of amusement at which an admission fee is charged. Children apparently under the age of sixteen years shall not be permitted to attend during their school hours any theatre or places of amusement". The Capitol Theatre Manager, Mr. Walter Golding states that the 'School Hours Rule' is kept, and great care is exercised during the evening hours to see that young children, unaccompanied, are not allowed into the theatre.

EDMUNDSTON, N.B.

A FIRE which might have had most serious consequences, broke out in the projection room of the Capitol Theatre at Edmundston, N.B. Shortly after eight o'clock, at the evening show, the film, in some manner, caught fire and Lynwood Fyfe, the operator, endeavoured to close the fire shutters, but to no avail. There were three loud explosions which broke panes of glass in the building. Joseph Lebel, the manager, attempted to reach the projection room with a fire extinguisher, but was unsuccessful. The machines in the booth were totally ruined. Fortunately the audience showed no panic, and all got out in safety. A cripple was carried out of the building by Mr. Fyfe. Fire and water did a large amount of damage, and it will be at least three weeks before repairs can be made. The theatre is leased and operated by Messrs. Bernstein and Lieberman of the Maritime Film Company, Saint John, N.B. This summer, several important changes were made in this theatre, and all four exit doors were in first class condition. The building is owned by Hon. Dr. P. H. LaPorte, Provincial Minister of Health and Labor, and was formerly managed by George LaPorte.

SAINT JOHN, N.B.

IT is understood that the Princess Theatre in Saint John is closing indefinitely. This building is the old Saint John Opera House and has been the scene of many stage performances in the days of stock companies. Since motion pictures have been shown there, a number of vaudeville acts have also been included in the programme. Paul Quinn has been its most recent manager.

"The Cowboy and the Lady" had its Eastern Premiere at the Strand Theatre, Saint John, and the management are congratulating themselves on presenting this attraction to Saint John Patrons after it had been seen only in Vancouver and in Montreal. Special prices were asked for this clever and outstanding comedy.

F. G. Spencer of the F. G. Spencer Company, Limited, is in charge of the publicity for the Anti-Tuberculosis Association in its Christmas Seal Campaign.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. King of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, were in Saint John recently. Mr. King is manager of the Magnet Theatre at Shelburne.

N. W. Mason of the Roseland and Academy Theatres at New Glasgow, N.S., is expected in Saint John shortly.

POSITION WANTED

Projectionist, first class, desires employment. Present theatre closing. Best references. Apply

DIGEST — BOX 43

THEATRE EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Two Simplex projectors, rear shutter.
Two Baldor rectifiers, 110 volt, 60 cycle.
Two strong arc lamps, 15.30 amps.
Sound reels, rewinder, film splicer.
One 9x12 sound screen.

LEN LUSH
Berford Theatre, Wiarton, Ont.

VICTORIA, B.C.

The Plaza Theatre here has recently installed new British-made luxury chairs in the main auditorium and balcony.

THE DIGEST IS YOUR BEST TRADE PAPER
SUBSCRIBE NOW! $2.00 PER YEAR

ENGLAND AWAITS NATHANSON INVASION

A contemporary, always ready to present Mr. N. L. Nathanson's viewpoint, has a feature article headed "N. L. Nathanson Is Watching Odeon - G-B Developments; Playing 'Waiting Game'".

We hate to bore you, but we thought you might like to know that the article covers the centre column of a page and is in earnest about informing Mr. Oscar Deutsch, of Odeon Theatres, that if he builds theatres in Canada, then Mr. Nathanson will go to England and build theatres there.

Milton Galbraith, whose name is published as author of this article, reveals just how little he knows about the theatre situation in England, and it looks as if in the telephone interview, Mr. "N. L." was too busy to give him the real picture.

We would have thought that Mr. Nathanson would have, at least, proof-read the article, for it is all so silly, and reveals Mr. "N. L." as frightened of the possible Deutsch theatre invasion. What the author of the article says for Mr. "N. L." is just a lot of nonsense.

Next week, we will tell you why 'England Awaits Nathanson Invasion'.

CRESTON, B.C.

Gene Sorrentino, manager of the Grand Theatre here, has installed 210 new theatre chairs, 1 inch thick centre aisles and back aisle carpets, velvet curtains along the back to shut out light, and a dozen new wall lights and gold screen automatic curtains. Other new equipment will be installed as soon as possible, Mr. Sorrentino said.

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Winnipeg Independents Prosper Despite Heavy Circuit Opposition

By J. J. CONKLIN

Winnipeg, Man. — The independent moving picture exhibitors are enjoying a flourishing business and are not worried over the fact that the greater number of theatres in Winnipeg are owned and controlled by the Famous Players Canadian Corporation. Outstanding among the independents are Henry Morton, Helmer Jernberg and M. Triller; while there are about ten independent neighborhood theatres, all of which appear to be holding their own, some of them having been built or completely renovated during the past year. Mr. Morton is a man of shrewd business sagacity when it comes down to exhibiting pictures. At the Garrick Theatre, where he makes his headquarters, many pictures enjoy runs of three and four weeks, while two have gone eight weeks. Mr. Morton has the remarkable faculty of concentrating at times the attention of all the moving picture theatre patrons in Winnipeg on the Garrick; and best of all he presents a programme that sends patrons away satisfied. He also leases the Beacon, on Main Street, and the Rialto on Portage Ave., the former being a vaudeville house as well as showing pictures. He has a large theatre in Saskatoon, Sask., which is being managed successfully by his nephew, Harry Horwitz.

Mr. Jernberg, who operates the Rio, formerly the Province, in association with John Shuberg, of Vancouver, the owner of the property, recently spent $20,000 on the interior and exterior of the building, adding to the enjoyment of a large number of patrons who regularly attend. His house is one of the oldest theatres in Winnipeg and Mr. Jernberg is one of the city's pioneer theatre managers.

A third independent is M. Triller, who operates the Times Theatre, the Tower, the Furby and a house in Transcona, Man., near Winnipeg.

Winnipeg was known throughout Canada for many years as possessing more independent theatres than any city in the Dominion. At the head of the independents was A. R. McNichol, a millionaire, who took keen personal interest in his three houses, the Lyceum, Starland and College. At the time of his death, three years ago, he had leased these three theatres to Jake Miles. Two years ago Mr. Miles organized Western Theatres, Ltd., which is a subsidiary of the Famous Players organization. His associate, N. Rothstein, came into the new organization, bringing with him the Uptown, Roxy, Rose, Palace and Plaza Theatres. Originally, the Famous Players had only the Capitol and Metropolitan, with the Orpheum, a white elephant vaudeville house, in their circuit. Eight years ago, Henry Morton sold the Gaiety, Wonderland, Arlington and Crescent Theatres to the Famous Players. With these theatres and the Western Theatres, Ltd., chain, and the Osborne and Tivoli, which two specialize in British pictures under the direction of Raymond Kershaw and his son Frank Kershaw, Famous Players have now nearly thirty theatres in Winnipeg. Mr. Kershaw went to Victoria, B.C., to live and his son, Raymond, is on the executive staff of Famous Players in Winnipeg. Mr. Miles also secured the three theatres of Sam Weiner, the Colonial, Regent and Fox to add to his Western Theatres, Ltd., and Mr. Weiner was compelled to leave Winnipeg owing to ill-health.

NEW "THEATRE" OPENS

"Haliburton, Ont. — A new theatre opened up this week on Main St. in the village. Mr. Moss Robertson local exhibitor has rented the vacant store opposite the Post Office and intends to have weekly shows.

"This will be convenient to the public and Mr. Robertson expects to have the latest pictures. The name of the new theatre will be The Grand. and it will be conducted in the latest theatre style."

The Lindsay Post,
Lindsay, Ont.

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS FORMS NEW PRODUCING COMPANY

The formation of Fairbanks International, new producing unit of United Artists headed by Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., was announced this week by cable from London.

The new company will be financed by American capital, represented by the Selznick-Whitney group, by British capital represented by Sir Adrian Baillie, Bart, M.P., and Montagu Marks, and Swiss investment interests. Its initial capital will be $2,500,000.

Mr. Fairbanks will devote himself exclusively to the production plans of the new organization. Studio facilities in Culver City, Denham or Pinewood, or even Continental Europe will be used, depending on the picture's requirements.

Three productions are planned for 1939. The first is "The Californian", for which Mr. Fairbanks is endeavoring to secure Raoul Walsh as director. The second will be "The Tenth Woman", based on the life of Lord Byron, to be done in Technicolor.

PRESCOTT, ONT.

The new Prescott Theatre opened here this week to the enthusiastic response of the townspeople.

Stop ! Look ! Listen !

Distributors present memorandum of trade reforms arrived at in distributor-exhibitor meetings; memorandum covers 16 points: privilege, trade announcement, exhibitor's limited playing time, preferred playing time, runs and existing customers, short subjects, newsreels and trailers, score charges, allocation of pictures, non-theatrical competition, form of license agreement, selective contracts, playing of pictures in the order of release, acquiring theatres, box-office statements, arbitration and effective date; if memorandum is acceptable to exhibitors, the matter will be further discussed with representatives of Department of Justice officials . . . British Independent exhibitors threatening to appeal to Parliament for help on problems of double-bills, increased circuit competition and film grading . . . New radio program, "Gateway to Hollywood", sponsored by Wrigley Gum, will debut over 60 CBS stations Jan. 8; program is arranged by Jesse L. Lasky, and ties-up with RKO Radio studios and theatres; program is in form of talent search; on same date show put on by Screen Actors Guild and sponsored by Gulf Oil will start, with proceeds going to M.P. Relief Fund . . . Columbia establishing its own exchange in France, and may produce there also . . . Milton Spitz sues Motion Pictures' Greatest Year, Inc., and all participating producing companies for damages, charging the "Movie Quiz Contest" is an infringement of his copyrighted game, "U-Spot-It" . . . Joseph Somlo, associate producer of General Film Distributors, Ltd., arrives in America to arrange American release of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado", Technicolor feature produced by Geoffrey Toye . . . . . Campbell's Soup Co., secures Orson Welles to replace William Powell as director of the Campbell's Playhouse . . . Defer RKO reorganization decision until December 16 . . . Estimate costs of giveaways in New York area alone at $3,000,000 per year; plan to eliminate gifts as much as possible.

DIGEST ADS BRING RESULTS

"Dear Miss Lewis:

"Enclosed you will find money order for my recent advertisement in The Digest, and may I say that it was instrumental in securing my new position.

"Thanking you and your paper for the results, I remain,

Your truly,
T. C. SOUCIE,
Kirkland Lake, Ont."

MARCUS LOEW'S PROFIT

Toronto, Ont. — Official report of Marcus Loew's Theatres, Limited, covering the year ending Aug. 31, shows net profit, after all charges, of $125,547, or $19.19 per share on the 7 per cent preferred stock, compared with profit of $17.09 per share for the previous fiscal period. Operating profit amounted to $201,158 compared with $188,447 for the previous year.

Loew's London Theatres for the year ending Aug. 25 showed a small improvement over the previous year. Net profit, after depreciation, is $15,722, or 46 cents per share on the 7 per cent preferred, compared with $15,597 for the previous year.

British M.P. Charges Government Effecting Press and Screen Gag

Film Exchanges Refuse to Sell B. C. Independent Circuit

By MERRYL LEA

CANADIAN newspapers headlined stories this week of the debate in the House of Commons when Geoffrey Mander, Liberal M.P. charged that pressure was brought to bear on newspapers to reflect the government's viewpoint in international affairs, and contended a number of newsreels had been banned or cut.

Sir Samuel Hoare, Home Secretary, denied these charges, stating, "There never has been any suggestion of the Government exercising censorship either upon the press or upon films".

Mr. Mander, after a vigorous attack on the Government control of newspaper policy during the crisis, turned to the censorship of newsreels, asserting they were subjected to "definite political censorship". He stated that the film "Britain's Dilemma" was cut, and that the title was changed to "Britain and Peace". In a Paramount newsreel at the time of the crisis, dealing with Czechoslovakia and containing remarks by noted commentators, A. J. Cummings, and Wickham Steed, these commentaries were entirely deleted, Mr. Mander declared. He further said, that two editions of the March of Time had been banned, and others had been cut.

In his defense of the newsreel charge, Sir Samuel Hoare said the newsreels banned, had appeared on September 22, the day on which Prime Minister Chamberlain went to Godesberg to see Hitler, probably the most critical day in the whole course of the crisis. "Foreign Secretary Halifax believed remarks in the film might compromise the chances for peace", Sir Samuel continued, "Lord Halifax therefore told the United States Ambassador his views and asked him to look into the question. The Ambassador, Joseph Kennedy, said he would communicate Lord Halifax's views to the film company, who then withdrew the film. "There was no censorship or undue pressure," Sir Samuel declared. He further stated that no pressure had been brought to bear against any news films in the "March of Time" series.

"Any action which may have been taken, has been taken by the chairman of the Board of Film Censors, entirely on his own responsibility," said Sir Samuel Hoare.

THE Motion Picture Projectionists, Local 173, elected the following officers for the coming year. President, Mr. Charles Dentelbeck; Vice-President, Mr. William Ayres; Mr. W. B. Covert, Business Agent; Mr. Arthur Milligan, Secretary-Treasurer and Mr. Harry Jarmine, Recording Secretary. The Executive Board includes, Mr. George Jones, Mr. N. Tanner, Mr. Jack Stringer and Mr. Carol Wells.

This organization has 184 members in the City of Toronto, and has branches across the Dominion.

THE Canadian Moving Picture Digest Company, Limited, has issued a writ against the officers of the Movie Digest Company. The head office of the 'Movie Digest' is in the office of Regal Films, Royal Bank Building, Toronto.

Owing to the absence of The Digest's solicitor from the city, the hearing which was to have taken place Wednesday, was postponed for one week.

The Canadian Moving Picture Digest is asking for an injunction to restrain the 'Movie Digest' from using this title, which the Canadian Moving Picture Digest alleges is an infringement of its trademark. Other issues are involved in the writ.

THE Independent Booking and Buying Circuit Limited, which has its headquarters at Vancouver, B.C., wrote The Digest a letter explaining the situation in respect to 'Co-operatives' in Vancouver.

Although this letter from Mr. Graburn, Manager of this Co-operative, is dated November 8th, The Digest awaited word from Vancouver to say that we would not be betraying any Independent trust by publishing the material as contained in this letter, therefore we publish the following now:

"Dear Miss Lewis,

Your article headed "The Spread of the Co-operative" which appeared in your issue of the 29th ultimo, was read by the writer with great interest, as its theme is of vital concern to our Organization here in Vancouver.

Several months ago, twelve Independent Exhibitor Theatre owners of Vancouver formed a company known as the "Independent Booking and Buying Circuit Limited" incorporated under the statutes of British Columbia, and appointed the writer as Manager-Booker, to negotiate film contracts for its members and to handle the bookings. Incidentally, I might mention here that I have had fifteen years experience in managing theatres, both independent and with Famous Players.

The purpose of these Independent Exhibitors in forming this circuit was primarily to eliminate differences pertaining to sequence of subsequent runs, to eliminate time and trouble in negotiating film contracts and to obtain a better selection of feature attractions for presentation to their patrons, by co-operating with other Exhibitors in competitive situations.

However, no sooner had the Film Exchanges been advised by letter that the writer had been appointed to act on behalf of each Exhibitor and as representative for the Circuit, than the Managers of the Film Exchanges refused to recognize the Circuit and refused to negotiate with their representative. This, in spite of the fact that we were willing to do business with the Film Exchanges on the same basis as last year, although the theatres in Vancouver during the past six or seven months had suffered in their box office receipts.

Hence, I repeat, your article was of great interest to the writer, as it appears that the Film Exchanges in Vancouver have united to discriminate against our circuit, but have been willing to transact business with similar organizations in other parts of Canada, and throughout the States as well.

Wishing you and The Digest every success,

ARTHUR K. GRABURN,
manager-booker."

Washington Film Digest

By MILTON F. LUNCH

U.S. PLANNING USE OF MOTION PICTURES TO CEMENT FRIENDSHIP WITH SOUTH AMERICA

Washington, D.C., Dec. 7—(CTP) AN intensive plan to cement Latin-America-United States friendship, embracing a wide use of motion pictures, was outlined here this week by Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State, as Chairman of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Co-operation with the American Republics.

In the report to the President, Welles and other committee members recommended an expenditure of $176,000 to promote the Latin-American film campaign. The plan calls for utilization of six existing Government-produced motion pictures, depicting the activities of the various Departments and agencies to be sound-tracked in Spanish and Portuguese, and the production of two pictures, one for distribution in the Latin-American countries and one for distribution in the U.S. The first is to be descriptive of the U.S. and the latter to give a picture of the American Republics to U.S. citizens.

It is also proposed to equip the embassies and legations of the U.S. in South America with motion picture projection equipment where the films will be shown.

The report emphasizes that the project will not in any way be competitive with private enterprise, but will rather be a supplement to the private companies. Utilization of the United States Film Service as a coordinating agency and as a clearing house for the motion picture matters, and in connection with the program to equip the embassies and legations with motion picture projection equipment, is recommended in the report.

"The Committee is of the opinion that various of the activities of the Government of the United States, including those in the technical and scientific field, are susceptible of dramatization through motion pictures, and that such presentation would be of definite interest and value to the other American Republics," the report states.

A break-down of the necessary finances for the program, according to the Committee, shows that $30,000 will be required for re-scoring, re-edition and narration in Spanish and Portuguese of the six films. Production of one film on the American Republics for the U.S. will cost $45,000, and production of one film on the U.S. for the American Republics will cost $45,000, it is stated.

Under distribution, the report states that distribution and exploitation of the six films, press releases, stills, posters, exhibits, press books, education study guides, special articles for newspapers, magazines, theatres, schools and other non-theatrical outlets, and radio stations, packing and shipping and general handling of prints will cost $6,000.

Installation of the projection equipment in the embassies and legations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru accounts for $28,000, it is stated. This covers one installation each, consisting of booth, two 35mm. projectors, one 16mm. projector, turntable, screens and sound equipment. For expenses with respect to preparation of films, sound-tracking, editing, etc., $10,000 is listed.

The entire film project is to be under the guidance of the National Emergency Council. The complete Latin-American good-will program calls for expenditure of $998,804. The film project calling for $176,000 is the second largest individual appropriation asked, being topped only by the Department of Agriculture project.

DISNEY ON PROFIT-SHARING

ANOTHER effort to learn the motion picture industry's reaction to profit-sharing was made on Capitol Hill today via a Washington-Hollywood telegram, when the Senate Finance subcommittee now holding hearings on the subject, wired Walt Disney, inviting his appearance to testify on his own 'profit-sharing' company set-up, as well as his "philosophy on employee relations" here next week.

Donald Despain, director of profit-sharing survey, said he had not as yet received replies from either Will Hays or Nicholas Schenck to committee letters previously sent requesting suggestions. However, Despain said that in a conversation with him several weeks ago in Chicago, Hays "expressed keen interest in the idea of incentive taxation as a field for exploration and a possible new source of tax relief". Despain said ideas held then by the MPPDA prexy were "quite in line" with those expressed before the committee by the head of General Electric, Gerard Swope.

It was learned today, however, that due to the recent death of Disney's mother, the creator of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck will be unable to come to Washington to testify.

JAMES ROOSEVELT JOINS SAMUEL GOLDWYN, INC.

THE eldest of the Roosevelt children — Jimmy — has finally and definitely broken away from his Washington duties as Secretary to his Father-President, and accepted a job as Vice-President of Samuel Goldwyn, Inc. Just what Jimmy will do and the salary he will receive was not disclosed.

Ever since his illness, Jimmy has been resting in California, and becoming friendly with the motion picture executives. His acceptance of the job is no surprise to Washington friends, for he told them some time ago that he would take a job in Hollywood if the right offer came.

"I am happy to be associated with Mr. Goldwyn," he declared. "For a considerable time I have contemplated becoming identified with an industry in which service to the general public is an outstanding feature.

"I consider myself very fortunate now to have an opportunity to join the motion picture industry and to work with Mr. Goldwyn in continuing the record of service which this industry has so long maintained."

The motion picture industry is the third industry to claim the talents of Jimmy. He was in a yeast company, and a partner in a much publicized insurance business before his illness.

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EVERYTHING FOR THE THEATRE FROM SHEET TO STREET

20th Century-Fox to Produce In England Through Gainsborough

Shooting the Stars

MICKEY ROONEY'S first solo starring picture began work last week, when M-G-M'S "HUCKLEBERRY FINN" started with location scenes on the Sacramento River; supporting Rooney are Walter Connolly, Lynne Carver, Jo Ann Sayers, William Frawley and Rex Ingram, with RICHARD THORPE directing . . . LORETTA YOUNG and DON AMECHE have been assigned the leading roles in "THE LIFE OF ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL", which goes into production at 20TH CENTURY-FOX studios January 3rd . . . . LUCILLE BALL has been awarded the feminine lead opposite RICHARD DIX in "TWELVE CROWDED HOURS", which has just gone into production at RKO RADIO . . . ALAN BAXTER and JACQUELINE WELLS have top billing in a new COLUMBIA picture entitled "RACKETEERS", on which shooting has already started, under the direction of C. C. COLEMAN, JR. . . . HAL B. WALLIS, chief assistant production executive for WARNER BROS., announced on his arrival in Hollywood from New York the purchase of MAXWELL ANDERSON'S play, "ELIZABETH THE QUEEN", which is to be produced as a joint starring vehicle for BETTE DAVIS and ERROL FLYNN . . . the HALL JOHNSON Negro Choir has been signed by Producer EDDIE SUTHERLAND for an elaborate musical sequence in his new production "IT'S SPRING AGAIN", for the HAL ROACH Studios; release will be through UNITED ARTISTS . . . FRANK MORGAN is to portray a Broadway producer for the third time when he starts work with JEANETTE MacDONALD and LEW AYRES in M-G-M'S "BROADWAY SERENADE"; the actor was a musical comedy producer in "Sweethearts", and before that in "The Great Ziegfeld" . . . CAROLE LOMBARD is the latest of the outstanding Hollywood personalities to join the RKO RADIO roster; she has been signed by the company for "MEMORY TO LOVE", a romantic drama based on the Bessie Breuer best seller of several seasons back . . . Hank Bell, Raphael Bennett and Blackjack Ward, well known Western players, were engaged this week by COLUMBIA for "TEXAS STAMPEDE", CHARLES STARRETT'S latest starring vehicle, now in work under SAM NELSON'S direction . . . GALE PAGE has been assigned to play the leading feminine role in "BROTHER ORCHID", EDWARD G. ROBINSON'S next starring picture for WARNER BROS.; WAYNE MORRIS will also have a top role in the production . . . DAVID NIVEN has been assigned the role of Edgar, MERLE OBERON'S husband in SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S production of "WUTHERING HEIGHTS"; UNITED ARTISTS will release the production when completed . . . CESAR ROMERO is to play a featured role in the current 20TH CENTURY-FOX film, "WIFE, HUSBAND AND FRIEND", in which WARNER BAXTER and LORETTA YOUNG share stellar honors; GREGORY RATOFF is directing.

Luise Rainer, co-starred with Fernand Gravet in M-G-M's "The Great Waltz".

Trans - Canada Showings

TORONTO

EGLINTON
"Marie Antoinette" (M-G-M), starring Norma Shearer and Tyrone Power.

IMPERIAL
2nd week. "Men With Wings" (Paramount), starring Fred MacMurray and Ray Milland.

LOEW'S
"The Great Waltz" (M-G-M), starring Luise Rainer and Fernand Gravet, and "Vacation from Love" (M-G-M), with Dennis O'Keefe and Florence Rice.

SHEA'S
"King of Alcatraz" (Paramount), with Lloyd Nolan, and "Say It In French" (Paramount), with Ray Milland and Olympe Bradna.

UPTOWN
"Drums" (London Films), starring Sabu and Raymond Massey.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
2nd week. "Suez" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Loretta Young and Annabella.

LOEW'S
"Service de Luxe" (Universal), starring Constance Bennett. Also stage show.

ORPHEHUM
"The Cowboy and the Lady" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon.

PALACE
"Men With Wings" (Paramount), starring Fred MacMurray and Ray Milland.

PRINCESS
"Garden of the Moon" (Warners), starring Pat O'Brien, Margaret Lindsay and John Payne, and "Racket Busters" (Warners), starring George Brent and Humphrey Bogart.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"Dracula" (Universal), starring Bela Lugosi, and "Frankenstein" (Universal), starring Boris Karloff.

EMPIRE
"Lost Horizon" (Columbia), starring Ronald Colman, and "Sergeant Murphy" (Warners), with Ronald Reagan.

MAYFAIR
"Having Wonderful Time" (RKO Radio), starring Ginger Rogers and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and "I'm From the City" (RKO Radio), starring Joe Penner.

PRINCESS
"Frame Up" (Columbia), with Paul Kelly and Jacqueline Wells, and "Renfrew of the Royal Mounted" (G-N), with James Newill.

STRAND
"The Cowboy and the Lady" (Goldwyn-U.A.), staring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"Men With Wings" (Paramount), starring Fred MacMurray and Ray Milland.

BIJOU
"The Great Ziegfeld" (M-G-M), starring William Powell, Myrna Loy and Luise Rainer.

METROPOLITAN
2nd week. "Drums" (London Films), starring Sabu and Raymond Massey.

RIO
"Bad Guy" (M-G-M), with Bruce Cabot and Edward Norris, and "The Mysterious Rider" (Paramount), with Douglas Dumbrille.

UPTOWN
"Carefree" (RKO Radio), starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and "I'll Give A Million" (20th Century-Fox), starring Warner Baxter and Marjorie Weaver.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"The Sisters" (Warners), starring Errol Flynn and Bette Davis.

GRAND
"Invisible Enemy" (Republic), with Alan Marshall and Tala Birell. Also stage show.

PALACE
"The Young in Heart" (Selznick-U.A.), starring Janet Gaynor, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Paulette Goddard.

STRAND
"Little Miss Broadway" (20th Century-Fox), starring Shirley Temple, and "Passport Husband" (20th Century-Fox), with Stuart Erwin and Pauline Moore.

VARIETY
"Gold Diggers in Paris" (Warners), starring Rudy Vallee and Rosemary Lane, and "One Wild Night" (20th Century-Fox), with June Lang and Dick Baldwin.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
"Suez" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Loretta Young and Annabella.

DOMINION
"Boys Town" (M-G-M), starring Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney, and "Mr. Doodle Kicks Off" (RKO Radio), starring Joe Penner.

ORPHEUM
"Young Dr. Kildare" (M-G-M), starring Lew Ayres and Lionel Barrymore, and "Mr. Moto's Last Warning" (20th Century-Fox), starring Peter Lorre.

PLAZA
2nd week. "The Cowboy and the Lady" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon.

STRAND
"Man's Castle" (Columbia re-issue), starring Spencer Tracy and Loretta Young, and "The Gladiator" (Columbia), starring Joe E. Brown.